

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07
LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 SS-15 NSC-05 L-03 /062 W
-----212016Z 126067 /73
R 211925Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7485
INFO US MISSION GENEVA 127
USUN NY 399

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN JOSE 2315

E.O. 11652: GDS
AAAGS: PLAB, ILO
SUBJECT: ILA - 63RD INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE (ILC)

REF: A) STATE 102699, B) STATE 104925

1. CHARGE DISCUSSED CRITICAL ISSUES RELATING TO FORTHCOMING ILO CONFERENCE WITH FOREIGN MINISTER FACIO, MINISTER OF LABOR, AND POSSIBLE COSTA RICAN DELEGATE TO CONFERENCE (AND EX-ILO FUNCTIONARY) DANILO JIMENEZ VEIGA (WHO HAS ALSO BEEN LABOR MINISTER). FACIO AND JIMENEZ VOICED STRONG SUPPORT FOR MEASURES US HAS TAKEN THUS FAR TO REFORM ILO AND PERMIT US TO REMAIN A MEMBER. BOTH SPECIFICALLY AND STRONGLY EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT US WILL REMAIN IN ILO.

2. FACIO AND JIMENEZ SEPARATELY TOLD CHARGE THAT PRESIDENT ODUBER HAD NOT REALIZED THE SIGNIFICANCE OF UPCOMING MEETING. GOCR IN RECENT YEARS, THEY NOTED, HAS BECOME DISSATISFIED WITH ILO MEETINGS; THEY ARE TOO POLEMIC, AND NOTHING IS RESOLVED. PRESIDENT ODUBER HAD THEREFORE DECIDED IT WAS NOT WORTH SPENDING THE MONEY TO SEND A DELEGATION TO GENEVA THIS YEAR, AND INSTEAD HAD DECIDED TO ACCREDIT LOCALLY BASED COSTA RICAN DIPLOMATS TO CONFERENCE.

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3. FACIO TOLD CHARGE HE WILL EXPLAIN TO THE PRESIDENT THAT SUBJECT MEETING COULD BE A TURNING POINT NOT ONLY VIS-A-VIS US PARTICIPATION IN AND FUTURE OF ILO, BUT IN TERMS OF IMPLICATION FOR UN SYSTEM AS A WHOLE. A POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT AT GENEVA, FACIO STATED, WILL SET A PRECEDENT FOR DEPOLITICIZING OTHER UN AGENCIES. HE SAID, THEREFORE, THAT HE

WOULD STRONGLY RECOMMEND TO PRESIDENT ODUBER THAT COSTA RICA SEND DANILO JIMENEZ AS DELEGATE TO CONFERENCE, AND NOTED THAT HE AND JIMENEZ SHARE US VIEWS ON CRITICAL ISSUES. WHILE FACIO WAS TALKING IN TERMS OF ONLY JIMENEZ REPRESENTING COSTA RICA, JIMENEZ INDICATED HE FAVORS AND WOULD WORK FOR FULL, TRIPARTITE REPRESENTATION.

4. JIMENEZ TOLD CHARGE THAT IF CHOSEN TO REPRESENT GOCR AT ILO, TO THE EXTENT HE IS EMPOWERED TO ACT OR DIRECT COSTA RICAN DELEGATION, HE WOULD SUPPORT US ON POSITIONS DELINEATED REFTEL A. NIE REACTED ENTHUSIASTICALLY TO US SUPPORT OF MORRIS CANDIDACY (PARA 9 REFTEL A) DECLARING HE PERSONALLY KNOWS AND HIGHLY RESPECTS ABILITY OF CANADIAN LABOR REP. JIMENEZ SAID HE WOULD MEET WITH US REP HOROWITZ, WHO HE DESCRIBED AS OLD FRIEND, IF HE GOES TO GENEVA.

5. AT SEPARATE MEETING, MINISTER OF LABOR ROJAS EXPRESSED NEAR TOTAL AGREEMENT WITH US ON CRITICAL CONFERENCE ISSUES. HE VOICED CONCERN OVER THE EFFECTS OF POLITICALIZATION ON THE TECHNICAL COMPETENCE OF ILO. ROJAS STATED THAT IN THE LAST FEW MONTHS A NUMBER OF SO-CALLED ILO TECHNICAL PEOPLE HAD COME TO COSTA RICA WHO WERE NOT EXPERTS IN THEIR FIELDS. IN THE FUTURE, ROJAS INDICATED, VISITING ILO STAFF WILL NOT BE WELCOME UNLESS THERE IS EVIDENCE THEY ARE TECHNICALLY QUALIFIED.

6. COMMENT: EMBASSY NOW REASONABLY SURE THAT GOCR
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WILL SEND A DELEGATION TO ILO, AND THAT COSTA RICA WILL SUPPORT US POSITIONS ON CRITICAL ISSUES. STILL BEING DECIDED IS COMPOSITION, WHICH EMBASSY WILL TRANSMIT AS SOON AS PRESIDENT ODUBER MAKES HIS DECISION.
KILDAY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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